A New Species of Rallicola (Mallophaga) from Southeast Asia.

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A new species of the genus *Rallicola* is herewith described from specimens in the United States National Museum and the British Museum (Natural History), and the probable host for another species is indicated.

Rallicola indicus n. sp.

Male. Head as in figure 1. Posterior margin of pterothorax with 3–2–2–3 long setae. Second (first apparent) abdominal tergite interrupted medianly, the remainder transversely continuous. Tergites II–VIII, each with a pair of setae located medianly on the posterior margin. Terminal tergite with 3 long setae on each side. Chaetotaxy of paratergites: II–1, III–IV–2, and V–VIII–3. Abdominal sternites II, VII and VIII, each with 2 long setae; and III, IV, V, and VI, each with 6 long setae. Terminal abdominal segment bilobed with 8 short setae ventrally on each lobe. Genitalia as shown in figure 2.

Female. Head, except for filiform antennae, as in the male. Pterothorax as in the male. Abdominal tergites II–VIII interrupted medianly, chaetotaxy as in the male. Chaetotaxy of paratergites as in the male. Chaetotaxy of abdominal sternites: II–III–2, and IV–VI–8. Genital plate with 3 long setae on each side. Posterior margin of vulva with 24 short spines and 28 short setae. Terminal sternite with 16 long lateral setae and 3 genital setae on the tubercle on each side.

Measurements	Male	Female
Length of head	0.55 mm.	0.55 mm.
Width of head	0.41	0.44
Width of prothorax	0.27	0.27
Width of pterothorax	0.37	0.41
Width of abdomen	0.55	0.63
Total length	1.81	2.10

Diagnosis. This form is closest to *R. sulcatus* (Piaget, 1880) found on *Hydrophasianus chirurgus* (Scopoli). In the male,

the heavily sclerotized abdominal tergal and sternal plates are not as wide in *R. indicus* as in *R. sulcatus.* The mesosome of the male in *R. sulcatus* is much narrower than in *R. indicus.* In the female, the posterior margin of the vulva in *R. indicus* is normal, or without appendages found in *R. sulcatus.* In both sexes, the ventral chaetotaxy of the genital region is more dense in *R. indicus* than in *R. sulcatus.*

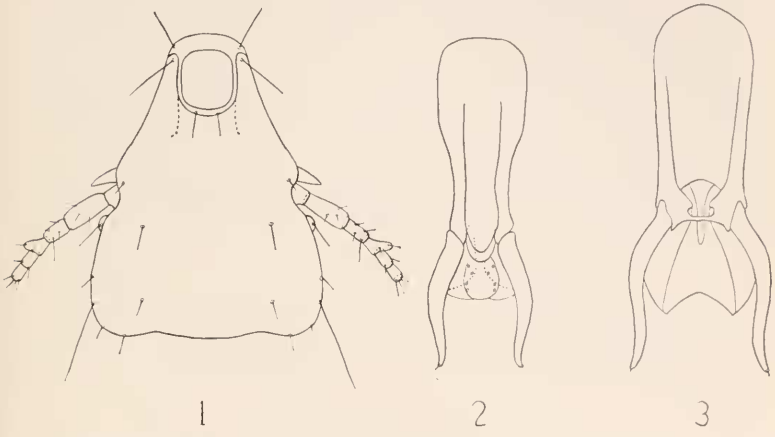

Fig. 1. *Rallicola indicus* n. sp., dorsal view of head, male.
Fig. 2. *Rallicola indicus* n. sp., male genitalia.
Fig. 3. *Rallicola unguiculatus* (Piaget, 1800), male genitalia.

Type host: Metopidius indicus (Latham).

Type material: Holotype male, *allotype* female and 30 *paratypes* in the U. S. National Museum collected on 15 December 1952 by Robert E. Elbel at Chaiyaphum, Phu Khieo, Ban Lat, Thailand. The British Museum (Natural History) has 40 paratypes collected in March 1937 at Lucknow, India, and 21 paratypes collected on 1 January 1952 at Moraing, Manipur, India.

Rallicola unguiculatus (Piaget, 1880)

This species was described from specimens supposedly taken off "Eurylaimus cucullatus" from Sumatra. Clay noted "it is possible that *Eurylaimus* is not the true host." Large collections in Thailand from *Centropus sinensis intermedius* (Hume) have yielded specimens which appear to be this species. The male genitalia, of a specimen from this host, is shown in figure 3. Specimens from *Centropus bengalensis bengalensis* (Gmelin), also from Thailand, appear to be the same species. Therefore, it appears that the true host is a species of *Centropus*. Five species of *Centropus* are found on Sumatra. Since material from all of these hosts is not available for study, it is impossible to determine if only one species of *Rallicola* is found on all species of *Centropus*. In the meantime, it can be safely stated that the type host originally given is in error; and it should be *Centropus* sp.

Literature Cited

Clay, T. 1953. Revisions of the genera of Mallophaga. I. The *Rallicola*-complex. Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond. 123: 563–587.

Obituary

Professor Dr. Hans Bischoff, formerly curator of Hymenoptera in the Zoological Museum of the Humboldt University in Berlin, and one of the world's foremost hymenopterists, died on March 18, 1960, in the seventy-first year of his age, following a brief illness. Professor Bischoff was best known for his outstanding volume on the biology of the Hymenoptera. His most comprehensive taxonomic contribution was the voluminous monograph of the Mutillidae of Africa.